

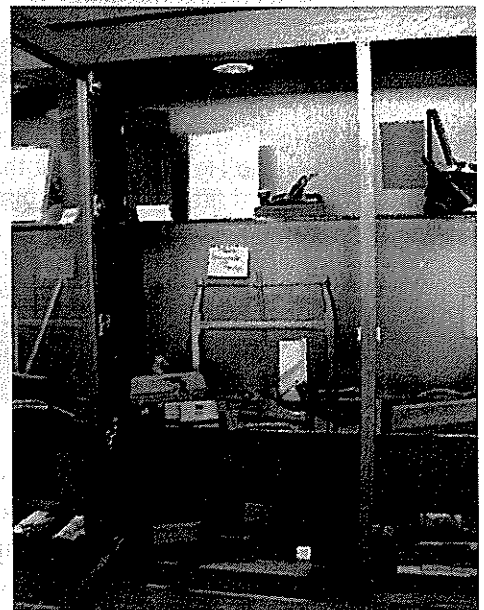
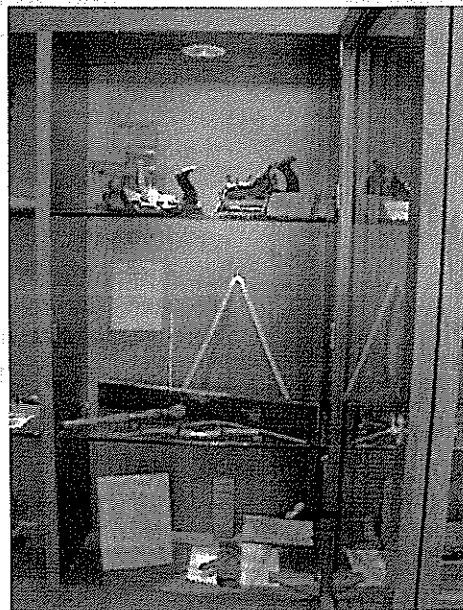
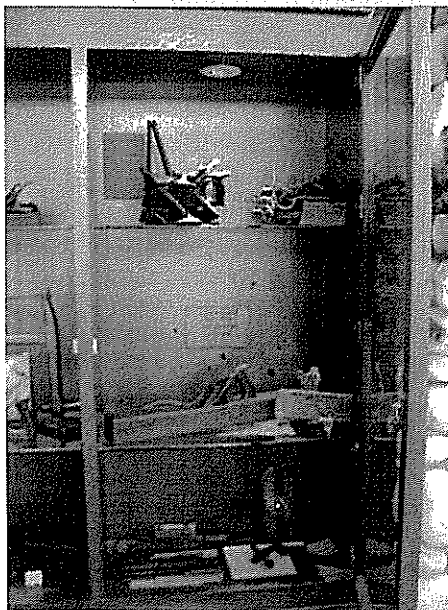
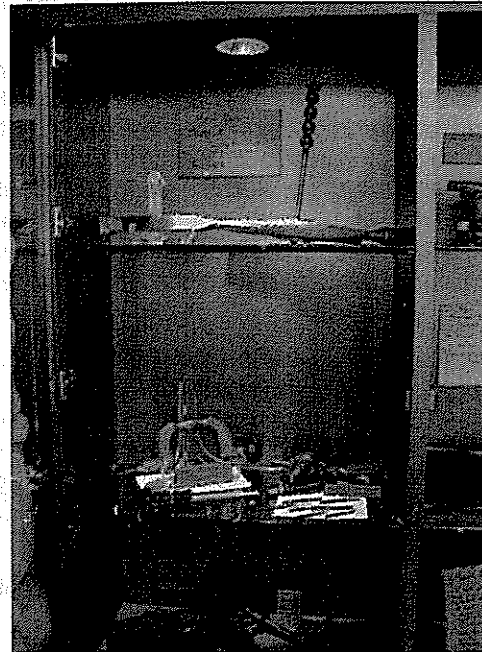
# SHAVINGS, SAWDUST and SPLINTERS

April 2003

**Ed Rowland, a long time member of the RMTC, recently had a display at the Wheat Ridge Recreation Center.**

"Ed Rowland, the owner of this antique tool collection, is a retired professional carpenter. He began his long career after graduating from Wheat Ridge High School in 1941 and serving in the United States Air Force as an aircraft mechanic in the ETO during World War II. His professional carpenter work included working on the Marriott Hotel building and several other of Denver's major downtown buildings. He has built and sold tables, chairs, roll top desks and other furniture.

Ed began accumulating his extensive collection of antique tools 25 years ago. He found his gems at garage sales and antique stores, but many were gifted to him by those who appreciated Ed's love and admiration of the quality workmanship and the beauty of fine old tools. Ed's current interest is repairing antique pedal organs. He is a member of the Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors."



## The Editor's Ramblings

April 15<sup>th</sup>. A date that is nothing if not a nag every year. Yes, it's tax time, but it is also 'out there' along with a big laundry list of other things that I've got on my internal 'to-do' list. One of the things on that to-do list is to put together the April edition of the Shavings, Sawdust and Splinters. In the few years I've been acting as editor, I always have such great expectations about being proactive and being ahead of the game about putting it together. "the best laid plans of mice and men...." Once again, I haven't done anything except collect the articles and notes to myself and here I sit staring at the keyboard trying to put together a readable edition. Some things never change. The cryptic notes I've kept on the Colorado area meetings, the want ads that folks have submitted, the calendar items, they all look so much like how I keep my tax file. (By the way, I enjoy doing this much, much more than Form 1040)

This is the 10<sup>th</sup> issue I've put out. I often wonder how Cliff Fales put out such wonderful issues for so many years. I can only hope to work toward the legacy he established. As always, I'm always looking for input that I can use that someone else has offered up. Honest, even if you have an idea and give me some clues, I'll be happy to work with it.

As you'll see in the President's message, the book that Finch is going to get a group to put together on Tools from Rocky Mountain Collections could be a lot of fun. I've already given it more than a passing thought about what tool from my meager collection I'll offer up to get in the book. I look forward to hearing more about the book at the upcoming meetings.

Other random thoughts. I've got some pictures in this issue later showing off some of the quality work some of our members are capable of. Of note, I don't know how many of you saw the collection of infill 'English' style planes Joe Helm had out at the Red Rocks meet in early March. I first got wind of his talent at a meet at Dennis Scheel's last summer when he had a couple of the planes that he had been working on. At Red Rocks, Joe must have had 6 or 8 planes either complete or in work that Joe had made. Such beautiful work tool!

### In This Issue

New Mexico Meeting	Opportunities
Colorado Meeting Recaps	Classifieds
Members Doings	Upcoming Events
New Members	Book Reviews

Even before I saw Joe's planes, I had an interest in that style from my experience using them. They are such works of art and they've got such heft they just feel good in your hands.

As this will be the last issue before the summer season, I've included as many dates of tool events as I could collect. If you are going traveling or visiting, try and take in some events of the other clubs around. I don't know of any fellow collector that will turn you away from an afternoon of camaraderie or a chance to sell a tool or two. If you see something but don't know who to get in touch with about specifics, give me a holler and I'll see if I can track it down from the contacts I have at the other clubs.

Happy Collecting!

Dan Kimpton

## SHAVINGS, SAWDUST & SPLINTERS

Published by the Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors –  
Three times a year or whenever we get around to it.

Editor: Dan Kimpton

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Vice President: Don Hodge (2003-2004)

Secretary: Charlie Aumiller

Treasurer: Mike Liebman

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Bill Morrison

Al Barthelemy

Dave Miller

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## From the President

A board of directors' meeting was held at my home on 6 March. Cheap wine and cheese were served. In addition to several accounting, insurance, and procedural issues that were resolved, the following decisions and motions were made, that will be of interest to the general membership.

1. I appointed Dave Miller to fill out my Directorship term. He has accepted, and was unanimously approved by the Board.
2. Auction rules and commissions will remain unchanged. As a reminder, the following commissions will be charged by RMTC:
  - Members will be allowed to auction 3(±) lots at regular meetings, with no commission.
  - Members' estates will be sold and/or auctioned at regular meetings, or annual meetings without commission by RMTC, except that the club will be reimbursed for actual out-of-pocket expenses, if any.
  - Members' surplus dispersal sales (Maximum 25 lots per meeting) will be charged a commission of 10% of sale prices realized (no minimum, no reserve).
  - Non members' estate sales will be charged 15% commission (no minimum, no reserve).
  - Members auction lots at the annual meeting will be charged 5% when the meeting is held in Denver. The rate for the Albuquerque meeting needs to be negotiated with other participating clubs.
3. It was suggested that we use the Arvada 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church for most of our meetings, since the membership is too large to meet at members' homes. The Denver meetings for 2003 are all arranged for, as well as several of them for 2004. It was generally agreed that the Church is an excellent fall-back location, and we will continue to use it as such.
4. My proposal that RMTC produce and publish a small book, tentatively entitled *Tools from Rocky Mountain Collections*, was accepted by the board. At next meeting I will be appointing a committee to make this happen.

The book is to be a photo album, with explanatory captions, of the most interesting tools from as many of the membership as possible. The plan is to have each member bring several of his favorites to a central location, perhaps a regular meeting, for photography. I will plan to go to Albuquerque to photograph their selections.

The photos will be digitally processed, and a committee will select up to 150 or 200 tools to appear in the book. Either the owner, or the committee will write a detailed caption for the photo, and arrange it on the page for printing.

I have an example of such a book published by the Pacific Northwest tool group for your examination. The plan is to provide a copy for each member of the club, and to make a one time dues assessment of about \$5 to help defray the cost. We plan to make extra copies available to dealers and antique stores at a modest profit to the club.

I'm really excited about this project. I hope each of you will start thinking about some old, or beautiful, or interesting tools to have included in the book.

**H.R.H Bob Finch**  
**President, RMTC**  
 .....

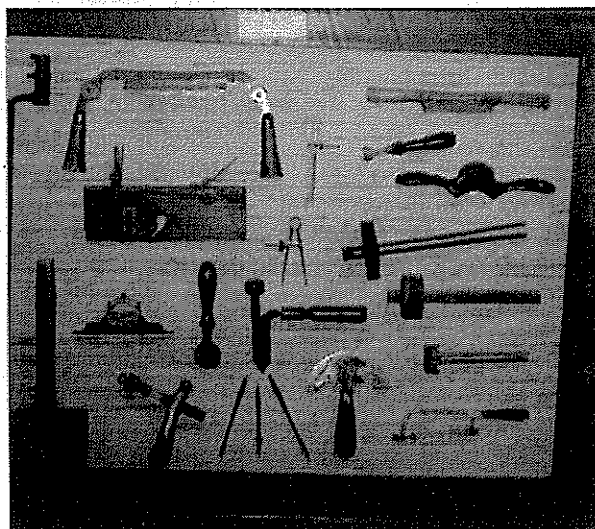


Photo by Dan Kimpton  
 Monty Dorman's Display at the January Meeting



K &amp; E CO. Deluxe 12 inch Brass Rolling-style Parallel Rule

### New members

Mike Liebman has been like a dog with a bone about maintaining the member we have and getting new members to sign up. Mike has aggressively tracked down those that didn't renew, or were intending to but didn't do it on time. Largely through his efforts, the club now has 185 members. What typically happens is that by the end of the calendar year, the RMTTC has around 200 members, which include the new members picked up through the various contacts and meetings throughout the year. Because the membership is renewed every year, timely payment of the dues make the fall-off in the early part of the year less, and cause less worry for the folks behind the scenes (Mike and myself). When the directory is put together, it is based on the paid membership in February. If anybody has forgotten to pay their dues by then, they aren't listed in the directory, but will be listed on an insert that comes out later.

Anyway, we all owe Mike a pat on the back for his drive to increase the membership. The new members to the club are listed in the table. Some joined last year but have not yet been recognized in the paper.

Mr. Michael Bettman	Lakewood, CO
Mr. John Connors	Boulder, CO
Mr. Trey Corkern	Golden, CO
Mr. Monty Dorman	Loveland, CO
Mr. Doug Dupsky	Lakewood, CO
Mr. Richard Dunn	Lakewood, CO
Mr. Hugh Formhals	Albuquerque, NM
Mr. Ben Giltner	Boulder, CO
Mr. Ken Green	Santa Fe, NM
Dr. Jerome Grismer	Little Rock, AR
Mr. Don Heese	Arvada, CO
Mr. Ken Howe	Longmont, CO
Mr. Frank Huffman	Arvada, CO
Mr. Roger Krempel	Ft. Collins, CO
Mr. Romeo Kubes	Rio Rancho, NM
Mr. Jim Kuttner	Denver, CO
Mr. Earl Lambeth	Boulder, CO
Mr. Paul Lisle	Albuquerque, NM
Mr. Joe Masche	Littleton, CO
Mr. Tom McMichen	Longmont, CO
Ssnake	Golden, CO
Mr. Darrell Thomas	Frisco, CO
Mr. Michael Tobiasson	Parker, CO
Mr. John Weger	Centennial, CO
Mr. Paul Weingardt	Littleton, CO
Mr. Tom Wirsing	Longmont, CO

### January Colorado Area Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church, Arvada, Colorado January 5<sup>th</sup> by Dan Kimpton

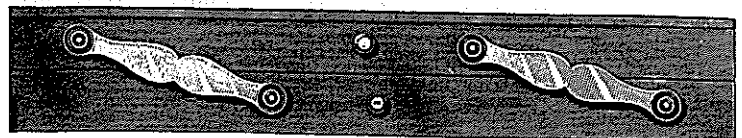
About 60 folks made it out for the first tool collecting event in the new year. My kids and family decided to get me other things for the holidays than those 'blasted tools', so I was looking forward to getting to the sale tables to see what I couldn't live without. Sale tables there were, this being the one location for the indoor season that has an abundance of room so everyone can spread out.

To start it all off, my compliments go to the hosts. Don Sharp, Bill Morrison, Sam Wells, Mike Liebman and Bob Finch put together a great meet. The food, chili and cookies, was outstanding and I think everyone went back for seconds!

For the program, the hosts got Steve Scruggs to give his talk about how to identify planes from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Steve has evidently given this before at some meeting or other but this was the first time I had seen it. He had a number of wooden planes on display and asked if you could tell the differences between them. I wished I had written more notes on this and his talk, but trust me when I say Steve seems to know his stuff. Maybe I'll try to get Steve to write an article about it and put it in an upcoming SSS.

As for displays, there were many and all quite good. Finch had a table of *Carved, Decorated and Dated* tools from across the pond. Joe Helm had a display of 7 handmade (by Joe Helm) planes in the style of Spiers and Norris. John Gilmore had a well put together display of Masonic Emblems, Jewelry, Nic-Naks and a Bible embossed with the Masonic insignia. Sam Wells had a Salesman's Storm Door and Window Samples Sales Kit, Monty Dorman had a display board of various tools, and Gail Parks had a quality display of Cigar Box Openers.

There was an auction of both member's items and an estate. As usual, during the 5 minute business meeting that breaks out in the midst of trading, when asked if there were any new members, Don Dupsky piped up. He mentioned that he won't get married yet because his significant other says there are tooooooooo many tools on the walls. Dave Miller got a chuckle out of everybody after saying that they get used to it.



PARALLEL RULE in Ebony (Used by Navigators, Architects, Engineers, etc.)

## New Mexico Area Meeting

### Dave and Connie Fessler Abode

Feb 15th 2003

by Jason Fink

How many meetings have I been to at Dave and Connie's now? So many that I have lost count, but the large turnout is proof that this is one of the favorite meeting spots for everyone. 18 members showed up today, including Don and Pat Jordan making their annual pilgrimage down from Boulder Co. In addition, we welcome a new member to the fold, Mr. Romeo Kubes.

With my own 2 daughters in tow, I headed straight for Dave's spacious workshop where the tools are all laid out for perusal and purchase. No, my kids aren't really interested in the tools... they just want to visit Connie and Pat (and the Jordan's canine traveling companion). Lots of cool stuff for sale all over the shop, and after close scrutiny of just about everything, it was time to go inside the house to begin the official meeting and eating.

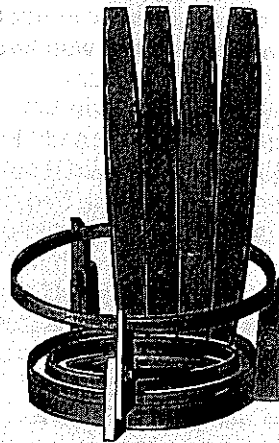
Starting the Whatsits of the day was a 1915 Box nailer, which bore close resemblance to today's Pneumatic Nailers. However, this odd device from the Pearson Mfg Co was actually hammer actuated and accepted 1 1/4" wire nails. Included with this nailer was the original instruction sheet and paperwork. Next in line Bill brought a nickel plated brass "reamer" marked Stille Sweden, 1926. This was a high quality tool with a good heft and interchangeable bits. After some speculation, Bill revealed to us that it was a Bone drill and countersink... of course, considering who brought this tool, we should have known it was part of the medical trade. Scott Jordan brought to us an old gardening trowel stamped Village Blacksmith. This tool was accompanied by a Gristmill article on the manufacturing company as well as a completely modern tool from the same folks. The quality of the modern "imported" tool was no match for the historical, but I am sure that surprises few reading this article.

After the whasit demonstration Dave began a fascinating lecture on Surveying instruments for the mining trades. Dave revealed that the key difference between underground survey methodology and the typical surface work, is that one is taking reading from the ceiling of the mine rather than the floor. This fact accounts for the first device shown, which was a miners Plummet, which was suspended from above a small flame for taking readings. Following this a transit was produced that included 2 scopes, one of which was used for taking readings straight down a shaft! A simple tool, called a pocket transit, was displayed on a very short tripod, it was pointed out that miners tools tend to be very small for working tight spaces. Mike

Stark told us of having used such a device while working as a Geologist and Miner, and reminded us that the user could not have ferrous buttons else the magnetic readings could be affected (buried iron track was also known to wreck havoc on those re-surveying an old mine).

Other instruments shown, included a portable sight level, a barometer used to tell altitude (with a 1 foot accuracy) and a 18th century compass/protractor that hung on cable.

Thanks to the Fessler's for another great meeting. Everyone left informed, full and satisfied.



Barrel Setting-up Form

**Harold & Vivian Lowe**, Directors of the **Limon Heritage Museum** have just about completed their new museum and are in need of items for the Russell Gates Mercantile display.

They are looking for all sorts of if items from around the turn of the century and before WWI. They are looking for small items, possible herb boxes, eye glasses, shoes, tins and hand tools for gardening, mechanics or woodworking. Vivian says "anything from A to Z" which could be found in a general store". Please call them at (719) 775-8605 if you think you have something they might be of interest. The items do not necessarily have to be donated. The Limon Museum is also always looking for Union Pacific and Rock Island Railroad items.

This years Limon Heritage Day Festival (Sat. Aug. 2nd ) will also be the dedication of the new museum. Many of our RMTC members have provided displays and demonstrations of past crafts at this annual event. For those that participate with a display or demonstration, Lunch is provided. Those that have 'done their thing' in the past will tell you that you will have a ball and meet some real 'down to earth' good folks. Plan to attend and better yet, PARTICIPATE !!

## March Colorado Area Meeting

### Red Rocks Community College, Lakewood, Colorado

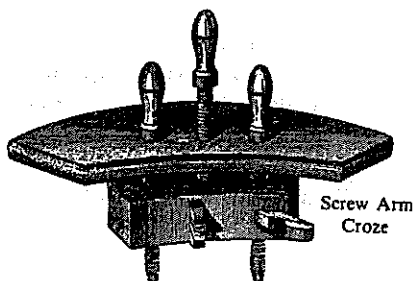
March 2nd by Dan Kimpton

The yearly trek to the wood shop at the college was well attended like it always is. I've been going out there for as many years as I've been with the club, and it seems like the road and the directions to get out there have changed every year I've gone.

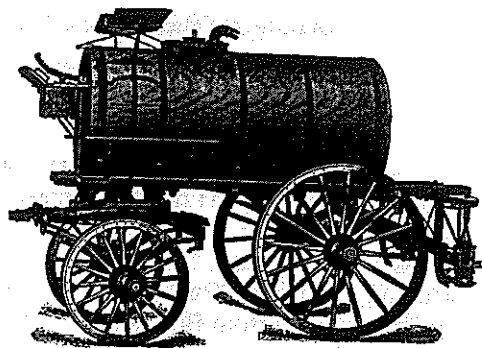
This year there was a special treat for those in attendance early as we were treated to traveling minstrels playing music of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Rex Rideout on fiddle, and his musical partner Mark Gordon on Banjo provided some wonderful old timey music.

The hosts for this year's meet were Bill Baker, Dick and Joe Masche, Stan McAllister and Mark Koons. Make sure you thank them the next time you see any of 'em. They made sure everyone had enough to eat and drink. Cliff Fales was supposed to give a talk on the Stanley Firing Pin removal tool but wires must have gotten crossed, as I didn't ever see Cliff at this one. There was a members auction and also a portion of Herman Harroun's collection made it to the auction. Displays of note included Don Biays' example of a CE Jennings #305, 14" long Jack Plane with Rosewood inserts on the sole. John Gilmore had a display board of 24 different types of hammers, Finch had a well-supported table of Serious Planes. I don't think a one of them was less than 4 feet long, and the lumber that went into each one of them would make a forest conservationist shudder. I believe you could have had your pick of any of them for 50 bucks too. Bob would have probably liked to see them go home in someone else's car.

Joe Helm had some more infill and 'thumb planes' in various stages of completion. Dave Miller had a display of Disston Saw-Maker repair tools, including an anvil, hammers and a 1914 Disston Catalog. Fred Freimuth had a collection of camera equipment like you used to have, and finally Wes Stratman had a display of taps and threading dies.



Screw Arm  
Croze



### BOOK REVIEWERS NEEDED

The Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors has been given the opportunity to review copies of new books from the folks at The Astragal Press. If any member would like to get one of these books and write a review for an upcoming issue of the Shavings, Sawdust & Splinters, please contact Dan Kimpton at (303) 773-3463, or by email at [dkimpton@eudoramail.com](mailto:dkimpton@eudoramail.com).

### Calculating on Slide Rule and Disk "2 x 3.... approximately 6"

Portrait of an era

IJ. Schuitema and H. van Herwijnen

IJ. Schuitema owns one of the largest slide rule collections in the world. This book is a compilation of some articles he has written about some of the wonderful slide rules in his collection, each one of them made for a specific and unique use, and about the men who designed and manufactured them.

### American Cooperage Machinery and Tools

by Kenneth L. Cope

Kenneth Cope's book, in the pattern of his previous books on the American machine tool industry, provides more than 530 illustrations of these cooperage tools, taken from original catalogs and contemporary periodicals. Along with the illustrations is a brief history of the individual maker, chronicling the various machines that each made.

Both books are available from

**Astragal Press**

5 Cold Hill Road Suite 12

PO Box 239

Mendham, NJ 07945-0239

(866) 543-3045 [astragalpress@attglobal.net](mailto:astragalpress@attglobal.net)



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are many opportunities to help and participate with your **Rocky Mountain Tool Collectors**. Contact one of the officers listed in this issue if you want to volunteer.

- |                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Annual Meeting | • Meeting Location              |
| • Historian      | • Label/Name Tags               |
| • Mailer         | • Meeting Reporter/Photographer |
| • Host           | • Nomination/Election           |
| • Greeter        | • Public Relations              |
| • Auction Staff  |                                 |

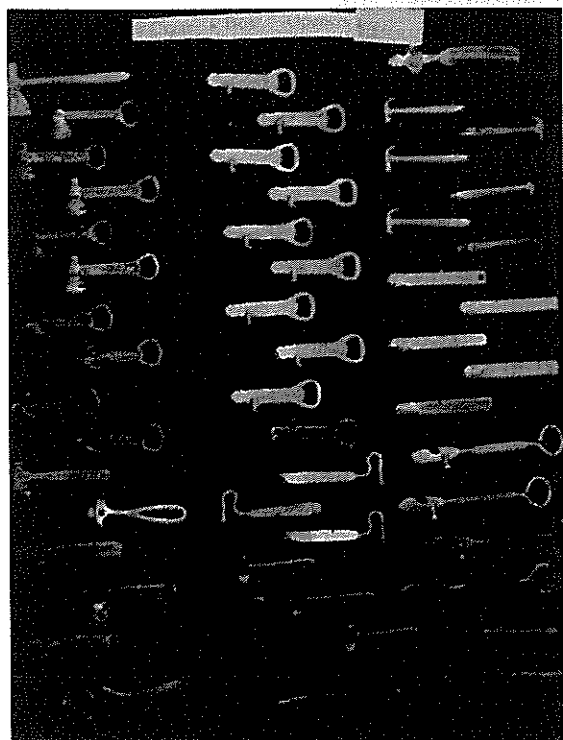


Photo by Dan Kimpton

Gail Parks Collection of Cigar Box Openers  
at the January Meeting



Photo by Dan Kimpton

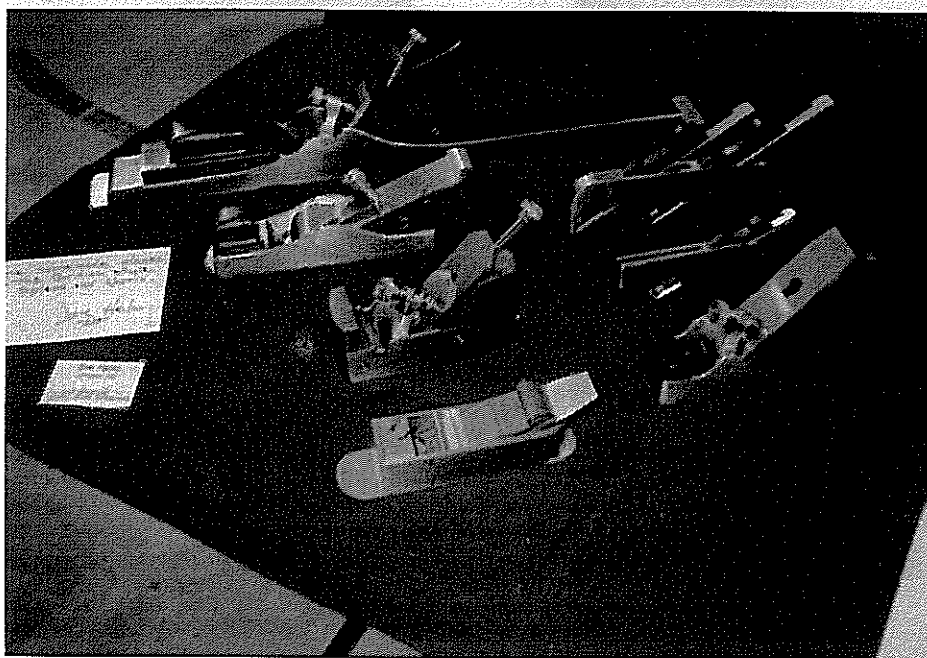
John Gilmore's Display of Masonic Emblems

## Wanted

Information about how you catalogue your tool collection.

- If you use a software program
- How do you come up with a numbering system
- If you've created your own collection database
- How you keep track of purchases & sales
- The kinds of information you keep track of on individual tools

Any information collected or submitted will be compiled into an article to be put in an upcoming issue of the Shavings, Sawdust & Splinters. Please get the information to Daniel Kimpton, Editor, Shavings, Sawdust & Splinters, 7498 S. Glencoe Ct., Centennial, CO 80122, or [dkkimpton@tde.com](mailto:dkkimpton@tde.com)



Photos by Dan Kimpton  
Joe Helm's Fabulous English Style Planes that he has  
made and shown at the recent RMTC meetings



## Tools of the Rocky Mountains

"My invention relates to improvements in prospectors' picks and similar tools, my object being to provide a device of this class which may be so adjusted as to occupy a convenient position for carrying about when not in use and which shall at the same time be of simple and economic construction, reliable, durable, and efficient in use; and to these ends the invention consists of the features, arrangements, and combinations hereinafter described and claimed, all of which will be fully understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which is illustrated an embodiment thereof."

Felix Goldsmith of Denver, Colorado, from application filed March 16th, 1901.

No. 691,309.

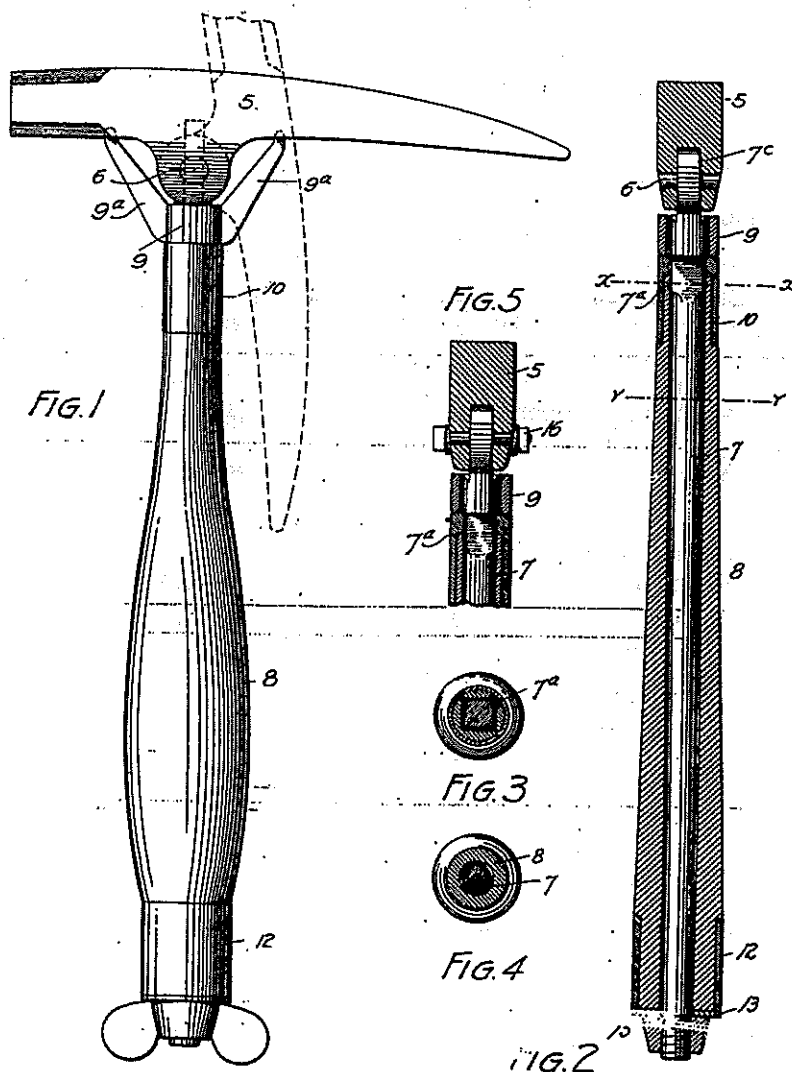
Patented Jan. 14, 1902.

F. S. GOLDSMITH.

PROSPECTOR'S PICK OR SIMILAR TOOL.

(Application filed Mar. 16, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:  
*[Signature]*  
 Rosa C. Frick

INVENTOR.  
 Felix S. Goldsmith  
*[Signature]*  
 ATTORNEY.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

*RMTC members in good standing may submit ads for sale or wanted items of interest to other members.*

**Wanted:** Lever cap for Stanley #122 smooth, 'Liberty Bell' series, transitional plane. Blade {1 1/2"} and 'Brass Adjustment Screw' for Union #502 smooth, transitional plane.

Please contact Don Burd, 2105 Floral Dr, Boulder, Co.

80304. {303-541-9406} or  
[historiconburd@hotmail.com](mailto:historiconburd@hotmail.com)

### Moving Auction:

A few old tools, mostly user and household. 25 pound

Little Giant triphammer, plasma cutter, milling machine, metal and wood lathes, forges, power hacksaw, foot pedal grind wheel, hardwood lumber, tongs, much more.

June 19, 5pm, Loveland. Steve Smith

[sos@alum.mit.edu](mailto:sos@alum.mit.edu)

(970)663-1513.

<http://www.wwsells.com/auctions.html> (not up yet, please keep checking) write for flyer.

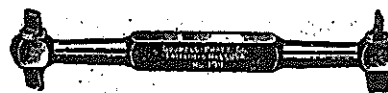
**For Sale:** Modern glass showcase with storage below. 6' x 18" x 39" high. \$50; Wood Lathe: includes 3 jaw chuck, 2 face plates, live and dead centers, threaded and cleat centers and motor and stand. \$225; Makita Thickness Planer: 5HP, 15 1/8" width, self feed and mounted on wheels. \$500

John Goss (970) 962-9943 email:  
[oldtools@excite.com](mailto:oldtools@excite.com)

**Antique Tool Collection For Sale:** Variety of items including farm, woodworking and miscellaneous. Please call or email to set up appointment. Also have items on eBay (seller: [oldtools@excite.com](mailto:oldtools@excite.com)) and the new Woodcrafters Supply Co. Auction (seller: [oldtools@excite.com](mailto:oldtools@excite.com)) John Goss (970) 962-9943 email: [oldtools@excite.com](mailto:oldtools@excite.com)

**Wanted:** Articles, pictures, notices of upcoming events, opinions or cartoons relating to tool collecting for the Shavings, Sawdust & Splinters. The Editor

## SCREW DRIVERS



### GOODELL-PRATT. OFF SET

Given 1/8 of a Turn to Operate in, it is the Master of Most any Screw, no matter how Seemingly Inaccessible.

Equipped with Four Blades, Two at Either End Set at Right Angles to Each Other; the Pair at One End Set at 45° from the Pair at the Other End, Providing a Blade Position for Eight Positions of the Screw Slot.

Forged Alloy Steel with the Blades Carefully Machined and Tempered; Length Over All 5 1/4 inches.

Per Dozen

No. 189—Weight per Dozen 3 lbs. ....\$7.90  
 Half Dozen in a Box

## SCREW DRIVER BITS



### DIAMOND EDGE

#### Flat Blade

Highest Grade Forged Steel; Polished Bit and Shank.

Nos.	Wdth. in.	Bit, Lgth. ins.	Wt. per Doz., lbs.	Per Dozen
DE25 1/4	1/4	4 1/4	3/4	\$4.80
DE25 5/16	5/16	4 1/4	1	5.20
DE25 3/8	3/8	4 1/4	1 1/4	5.80
DE25 1/2	1/2	4 1/4	1 3/4	5.80

One Dozen in a Box



### DIAMOND EDGE

#### Cabinet

Polished Bit and Shank; Width of Bit 3/8 inch; Diameter of Shank 1/8 inch.

Per Dozen

No. DE6—Length 6 inches; Weight per Dozen 1 1/2 lbs. ....\$6.20  
 One Dozen in a Box



### SHAPLEIGH'S

#### Round Shank

Extra Quality Forged Steel; Carefully Tempered and Ground; Polished Blade and Stem; Natural Finish Shank; Assorted Sizes; Lengths Assorted 4 1/4 to 4 1/2 inches; Widths Assorted 1/4, 5/16 and 3/8 inch.

Per Dozen

No. S15—Weight per Dozen 1 lb. ....\$3.60  
 One Dozen in a Box